28th Move

Fortuna's Hand.

IF I MESS UP HERE, THEN SHE MIGHT TELL THE SHOGI ASSOCIA-TION...
AND THEN...
OF ALL PEOPLE, FOR NIKAIDOU TO FIND OUT...

I'M DONE FOR.
Pff...
I'M SORRY,
Ufufufufu
!!
BUT YOU JUST LOOK TOO GOOD IN WOMEN'S CLOTHING, SAITOU,
YOU WERE SO CUTE, YOU HAD ME COMPLETELY FOOLED.

OH? BUT IT'S THE TRUTH.
THERE WERE SOME BOYS WHO EVEN DECIDED WHICH DAY THEY WOULD GO REGISTER BASED ON WHEN YOU WERE THERE.
LAY OFF... YOU'RE JUST TEASING ME.
Bend
HMPH! FOOLISH...
BUT JORYU KISHI ALWAYS HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE FACT THEY ARE FOOLISHLY BEING OBSERVED.
THAT'S RIGHT... IT'S FOOLISH,

HAVEN'T YOU SEEN IT TOO?
THE CONDESCENDING EXPRESSIONS THE MEN KISHI HAVE BEFORE A MATCH WITH ONE OF US...
AND THE ANXIOUS SMILES THEY PUT ON TO HIDE THEIR SHAME AFTER THEY LOSE?
IF YOU BECOME STRONG, YOU'RE AVOIDED LIKE THE PLAGUE.
BUT IF YOU'RE WEAK, AS LONG AS YOU'RE CUTE, YOU'LL BE PAMPERED...
.....
BUT THIS TOURNAMENT WAS DIFFERENT.

YOU AND SHION BOTH ENTERED THISTOURNAMENT WITH YOUR SKILLS,
AND ARE PLAYING SHOGI AT A LEVEL WHERE EVERYONE HAS TO ADMIT YOUR STRENGTH.
YOU DID TOO, NIKAIDOU...
YOU'RE ALMOST A DIFFERENT PERSON FROM THE FIRST TIME WE MET..
I CAN'T TELL YOU THAT YOU PLAY SHOGI LIKE A LADY'S HOBBY ANYMORE...
I DON'T HAVE ANY INTENTION OF SAYING SOMETHING WEAK LIKE THAT IT CAN'T BE HELPED THAT I WAS AGAINST THE MEIJIN.
THANK YOU...
BUT I DROPPED OUT OF THE PRELIMINARIES,
IT'S FRUSTRATING FOR ME, BUT I WON'T BE ABLE TO FIGHT AGAINST YOU TWO IN THE FINALS...

WHOEVER IT MIGHT BE, THE STRONGER ADVANCE...
THAT IS THE SINGLE RULE OF THIS TOURNAMENT, DECIDED BY HANI-NII. AFTER ALL...
THAT. I DON'T KNOW...
AND...
SO WHAT YOU MEAN IS THAT
EVEN IF HANI-MEIJIN KNEW ABOUT MY REAL IDENTITY, IT WOULDN'T MATTER?
WHOEVER IT IS... HUH,

I KNOW THAT IN THE SHOGI INSTITUTE,
THERE WOULD BE MANY WHO WOULD NEVER RECOGNIZE YOU EVER AGAIN.
THE DIRECTORS ON THE BOARD...
AND ALL THE KISHI WHO LOST TO YOU UNTIL NOW,
AND ALSO ALL THE JORYU CONTESTANTS AND OTHERS FROM THE ASSOCIATION...
THAT BEING SAID, I'M SURE THERE WOULD BE KISHI WHO WOULD SIDE WITH YOU, AS WELL,
THOSE WHO WERE EARNESTLY WATCHING YOU PLAY SHOGI.
I'M SURE... IT WILL BE AN EVEN GREATER RUCKUS THAN WHAT YOU IMAGINE, SAITOU.
SHION-CHAN AND YASUOKA-SENSEI...
YOUR MASTER, KAMIZONO 9TH DAN AS WELL AS THE VARIOUS KISHI WHO SUPPORT HAN!-MEIJIN'S VISION, AND...

NIKAIDOU...
ME TOO... MAYBE?
THE REASON YOU STARTED TO PLAY SHOGI,
AT FIRST, IT WAS JUST TO MAKE MONEY,
BUT I THINK IT'S MORE THAN THAT NOW...

.....
AM I WRONG?
LOOKING AT YOU NOW, THAT'S WHAT I FEEL IS TRUE,
IT'S JUST... I'VE ALREADY USED UP ALL THE MONEY I GOT FROM COMPETITION PRIZES AND AWARDS.
WHO KNOWS...? I DON'T THINK EVEN I DO ANYMORE.

THE KISHI, SAITOU AYUMI...
WILL, SOONER OR LATER, HAVE TO DISAPPEAR.
ARE YOU REALLY FINE WITH THAT?
YOUR MOTHER DOESN'T KNOW THAT YOU'RE A PRO SHOGI PLAYER, DOES SHE...
YEAH... IT'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN KEEPING SECRET.
Clench

SHE LOVES THAT...
I SUDDENLY BURST IN PRESENTING HER A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS AND SHOUTED "IT'S FROM THE MEIJIN!"
SO I MUST HAVE REALLY SHOCKED HER,
HM?
SO, JUST TELL YOUR MOTHER THAT I'M A RICH GIRL FROM SOMEPLACE,
AND THAT I HAVE SOME CONNECTION WITH HANI-MEIJIN OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
HAHA... I WILL DO THAT THEN.
I SEE.. THAT'S GOOD.
MY MOTHER REALLY LOVES FLOWERS...
SHE WAS REALLY HAPPY.

WHEN YOUR MOTHER RECOVERS,
THEN YOU WON'T HAVE A REASON TO CONTINUE CROSS DRESSING TO MAKE MONEY, RIGHT?
WHEN WILL SHE LEAVE THE HOSPITAL?
OH, THAT'S REALLY SOON.
I DON'T KNOW...
THE DOCTOR SAYS EITHER ANOTHER 2 OR 3 MONTHS...
IF IT'S FINE WITH YOU, THEN LET'S GO TALK WITH HANI-NII ABOUT HOW YOU CAN MANAGE FROM HERE ON OUT!
IT'S BETTER TO MAKE ALLIES ONE BY ONE RATHER THAN COMING OUT ALL OF A SUDDEN, SO-
IT'S FINE...

I HAVE ONLY ONE WISH...
FOR THE SHORT TIME I HAVE LEFT WITH MY MOTHER, I DON'T WANT HER TO BE WORRIED OR SAD,
I JUST WANT TO SPEND AS MUCH TIME AS I CAN BY HER SIDE... AS MUCH TIME SPEAKING, AND...
THAT'S ALL...

IF THE ASSOCIATION TELLS ME THEY NEED THE MONEY I WON BACK, THEN I'LL WORK HARD UNTIL I CAN PAY IT BACK.
BUT AT THIS MOMENT, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING FOR ME TO DO...
AS THE JORYU KISHI, SAITOU AYUMI, RIGHT UNTIL THE END...
I WILL COMPETE IN AND WIN THIS TOUR-NAMENT!

SAITOU-SAN..
SO THAT MEANS IT'S POSSIBLE TO DO TRICKS WITH THE NUMBER THERE TOO, RIGHT?
NO NO, NOT ALL OF THEM,
JUST ONE OR TWO...
I SEE.. IS THAT SO..
I WILL SEND YOU MY EXPECTATIONS, SO I'LL LEAVE THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE DAY TO YOU.

NO... I DON'T BELIEVE THERE SHOULD BE ANY PROBLEM IN PARTICULAR,
BUT THE MEIJIN REALLY DISLIKES THIS TYPE OF THING, SO THAT'S WHY.
ALSO, PLEASE DELETE ALL RECORD OF MY INSTRUCTIONS AS SOON AS YOU'VE UNDERSTOOD THEM.
WE CAN'T HAVE ANY EVIDENCE LEFT BEHIND.
AND FOR ME, WELL, I JUST WANT TO MAKE THIS TOURNAMENT MORE EXCITING, YOU KNOW...?
I'M REALLY IN A DIFFICULT SPOT WHEN I HAVE A BROTHER WHO'S SO SHARP AT READING PEOPLE.
GEEZ...

ENTER-
TAINMENT...
THAT'S RIGHT... IT'S JUST FOR ENTERTAINMENT.
Shogi Institute
Chatter
Chatter
Shogi Association
Pro-Amateur Open Tournament
Finals match-ups lottery
Sponsor: Digital Phones Co., Ltd.
Chatter
Chatter
Chatter

TO BE HONEST, OUR COMPANY'S NEW PRODUCT RELEASE IS ALSO HINGING ON THIS.
THROUGH OUR AGENCY, I'VE BEEN MARKETING IT IN SPORTS AND OTHER MAGAZINES.
WOAH!
WE'VE ATTRACTED QUITE THE CROWD OF REPORTERS ONCE AGAIN.
EHE HEHE!
AND WE EVEN HIRED AN IDOL TO BE USED IN A COMMERCIAL, SO IT SHOULD SHOW ON TELEVISION SOON, TOO.
THOUGH THE BUDGET IS ALL COMING FROM SATORU-SAN'S COMPANY...
A SHOGI WITHOUT AYUMI IS A SHOGI GAME LOST ♥
Snap
Snap
Snap
FURUTA-SAN, ALL THE KISHI ARE NOW ASSEMBLED, SO YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUIRED...
HM? AH, THAT'S RIGHT.
PUTTING ASIDE THE FACT THAT THIS IS BRINGING SHOGI INTO THE MASS MEDIA...
WITH THIS METHOD, JUST HOW MANY MEDIA COMPANIES ARE GOING TO SEND REPORTERS HERE FROM NOW ON...?

Kishi Waiting Room
AHEM!
THANK YOU FOR ASSEMBLING HERE TODAY DESPITE YOUR BUSY SCHEDULES
NOW WE WILL BEGIN THE "OPEN TOURNAMENT" MATCH-UPS BY BALLOT
IT LOOKS LIKE THERE ARE A BUNCH OF REPORTERS TODAY, DOESN'T IT...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME FOR YOU, ISN'T IT, SHION? ARE YOU NERVOUS?
HM?
!?
I'm fine, but I can't speak for others...

WHY ARE YOU FREEZING UP LIKE THAT?
Geez...
NO... IT'S JUST THAT I ASK MYSELF IF I'M NOT ACTUALLY REALLY OUT-OF-PLACE SURROUNDED BY ALL THESE HIGHLY SKILLED KISHI...
Gasp!!
HEY, WHAT'S WRONG?
GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF, HISATANI!
STILL...
YOU FOOL! YOU'VE COME THIS FAR, SO THEY'RE NO MORE OR LESS SKILLED THAN YOU ANYMORE.
YOU REACHED THE FINALS ON YOUR OWN MERIT, RIGHT?
NOW YOU NEED SOME SPIRIT, SPIRIT!!
There you go!
Right...
SPIRIT, IS IT..?
WE WILL INVITE YOU INTO THE ASSEMBLY HALL MOMENTARILY.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

SAORI-SAN AND AYUMI-KUN?!
IT COULDN'T BE THAT ..?
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED?
I STILL THINK THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER IF WE WENT TO ASK HANI-NII FOR ADVICE,
BUT IF YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO, I WON'T PESTER YOU ANYMORE ABOUT IT, SAITOU-SAN.

NIKAIDOU ... SAN...
I WON'T TELL ANYONE,
SO, SAITOU-SAN, PLEASE CONCEN-TRATE ON YOUR MATCHES.
!?
Yank
IT'S A PROMISE!
.....

COME ON, JUST TAKE A DEEP BREATH, HISATAN!!
Ooohhh...
Ahhhh
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SHION?
LET'S GO.
Poh!
Poh!
Ahhhh...
MAKE SURE TO SHOW ME YOUR BEST SHOGI DURING THE REAL MATCH
SAITOU-SAN,

YES...
THE LISTED PLAYERS...
THESE 24 GENTLEMEN ARE THE TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS WHO ARE AIMING FOR THE TOP!
EXCUSE ME... LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
Snap
Snap
WE HAVE ALL DIFFERENT TYPES OF FACES HERE: PROS, AMATEURS, WOMEN PLAYERS.
THIS IS EXACTLY THE TYPE OF 'SOLELY BASED ON SKILL' TOURNAMENT THAT HANI-MEIJIN HAS BEEN ADVOCATING.
.....

UM...
AS FOR THE METHOD OF SELECTING THE MATCHES, PLEASE GIVE YOUR ATTENTION TO THESE DEVICES HERE.
A TEXT MESSAGE HAS ALREADY BEEN SENT TO EACH OF THESE 24 CELL PHONES,
WITH A NUMBER WRITTEN INSIDE IT.
FURUTA-SAN, THE ANNOUNCE-MENT, THE ANNOUNCE-MENT!!
OUR BRAND-NEW PROD-UCT!!
EACH PLAYER WILL CHOOSE A CELL PHONE AND WILL READ THE NUMBER INSIDE THE TEXT MESSAGE.
1
2
3
4
5
NOW THEN...
THE FIRST SHALL BE SAITOU-SAN.
NOW THAT I'VE COME THIS FAR, ANY OPPONENT IS THE SAME TO ME!
SINCE IT WAS SHOGI, I THOUGHT IT WOULD JUST BE A BUNCH OF OLD FARTS ..
SO CUTE GIRLS LIKE THIS ARE ALSO TAKING PART?

Beep
Spin
SAITOU AYUMI... 13.
AYUMI-KUN'S THE SAME AS ALWAYS ...
IT SEEMS I HAD NO REASON TO WORRY.
Tch...
WHAT A CUTE GIRL
AND I THOUGHT I'D FINALLY GET A GOOD SHOT...
UH-----...
EVEN AMONG THE WOMEN PLAYERS, SAITOU-SAN IS AMONG THE YOUNGEST AND MOST SKILLED,
PLEASE EXPECT MUCH OF HER DURING THE TOURNAMENT.

Glance
Clatter
NEXT... IS HISTANI-KUN.
YE-YES!
I REALLY WANT TO GET NUMBER 17 OR ABOVE, THEN THERE WILL BE ONE FEWER MATCH TO PROCEED TO THE FINALS. .
17
18
10
Beep
NUMBER 10...
I'M BOXED IN RIGHT FROM THE START .. THIS IS HOPE-LESS ..
PLEASE, GIVE ME THIS-!

HISATANI-KUN IS THE FOUNDATION'S ONLY REPRESENT-ATIVE IN THE TOURNAMENT,
PLEASE CHEER HIM ON FOR HIS SAKE AS WELL AS FOR ALL OF HIS COMRADES AIMING TO BECOME PRO PLAYERS.
THAT'S RIGHT..
I CAN'T HOPE TO WIN IF I'M GIVING UP BEFORE THE TOURNA-MENT EVEN STARTS.
Pop!
HISATANI KEIJI, 3RD DAN! NUMBER 10!!
10
MASTER...
DID YOU FINALLY MUSTER UP YOUR COURAGE?

WHAT AMAZING TENSION ..
GUH
NEXT IS MY TURN,
JUST WATCH ME ..
Beep
OUR PROMISE...
Dad, you're so embarrassing...
THAT'S RIGHT, JUST CLICK THAT ONE.
WAS I SUPPOSED TO PRESS THIS BUTTON?
.....
NUMBER 19...!
IT'S DECIDED.
YASUOKA SHINJI, 48 YEARS OLD.

NEXT IS THE YOUNGEST PARTICIPANT IN THIS TOURNAMENT, YASUOKA SHION.
SHE IS ALSO THE DAUGHTER OF YASUOKA, 8TH DAN, WHO JUST MADE HIS SELECTION.
I'VE FINALLY MADE IT THIS FAR..
IF POSSIBLE, I'D LIKE TO BE IN A DIFFERENT BRANCH THAN AYUMI-KUN ...
IF WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A MATCH, THEN LET IT BE THE DECIDING ONE...!
HEY! THIS IS THAT GIRL, RIGHT? FROM THE INCIDENT?
THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S THE UNRESOLVED CASE OF THE MURDER OF THE YOUNG COUPLE!
THEY SAY SHE SAW HER PARENTS MURDERED RIGHT IN FRONT OF HER WHEN SHE WAS YOUNGER..
AND ISN'T SHE CUTE, THIS WILL MAKE A GOOD ARTICLE.
.....

YOU FOOL!
KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN!
UGH...
THAT A GIRL, SHION...
.....

Beep
WHAT'S HER NUMBER? WHO'S SHE PLAYING?
WHAT'S GOING ON, SHE ISN'T MOVING.
YASUOKA... SHION...
EXCUSE ME,
SHION HAS LOST HER VOICE, SO I WILL READ IT OUT FOR HER.

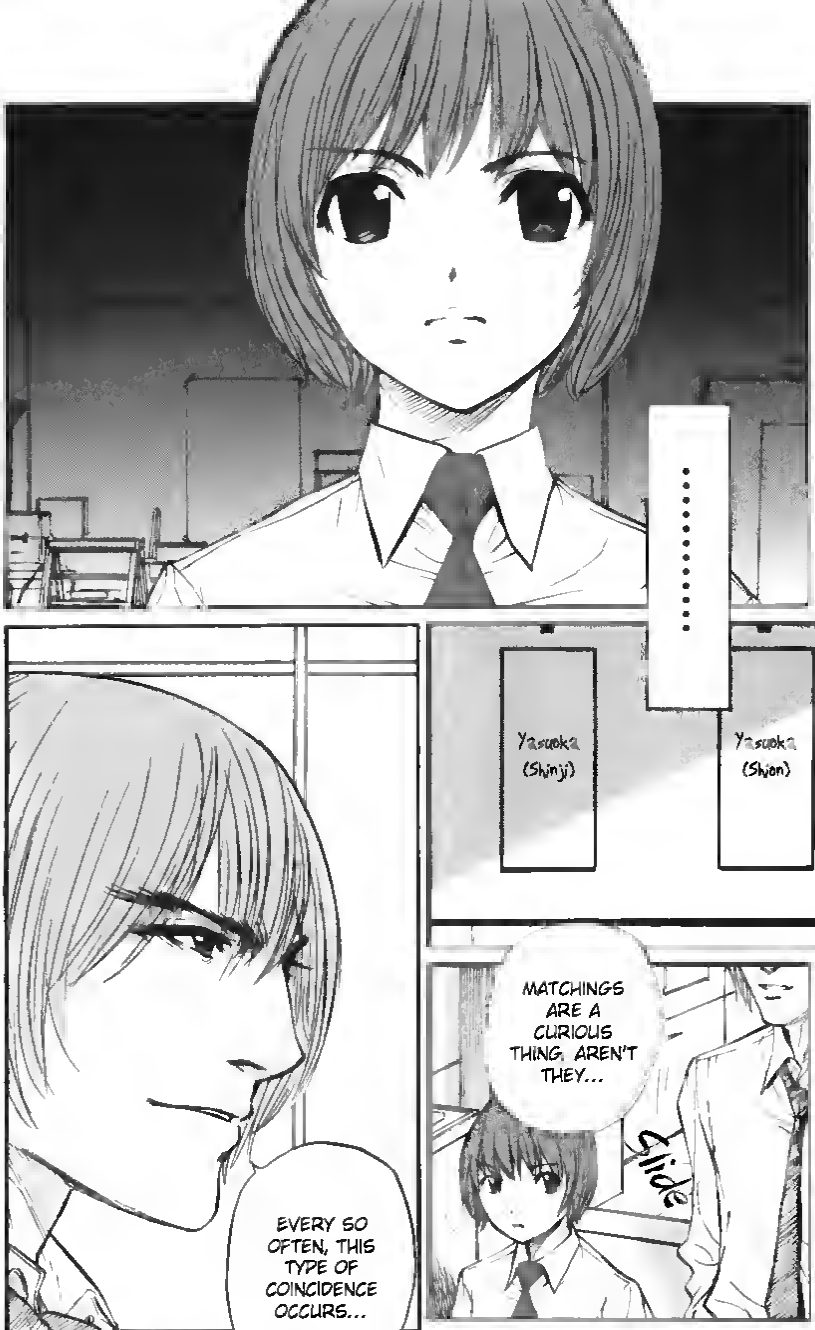
NUMBER 20...
20
!!
NO WAY...

SHOW-DOWN BETWEEN PARENT AND CHILD, NOW THIS IS HOT!
Yasuoka (Shion)
Yasuoka (Shinji)
SO THEY REALLY EXIST IN THIS WORLD..
HM?
THOSE PEOPLE WHOM TRAGEDY FITS LIKE A GLOVE...

SHION...
Snap
Snap
Chapter 28
END

SCS
Supreme Cream Scans
Presents
Shion no Ou
Translator Tallrice
Proofreader L
Editor Dead4Sun
QCer Pimelen
SCS blog: http://supremecream.wordpress.com
SCS forum: http://supreme-creamscans.com

29th
Move
The Competition's Record.


.....
Yasuoka (Shinji)
Yasuoka (Shion)
MATCHINGS ARE A CURIOUS THING, AREN'T THEY...
Glide
EVERY SO OFTEN, THIS TYPE OF COINCIDENCE OCCURS...

THIS IS A COINCI-DENCE...?
NO... I CAN'T LET MY MIND GET TWISTED AROUND THIS KIND OF THING!
AS EXPECTED OF SHION-SAN,
EVEN IF YOU'RE MATCHED UP AGAINST YOUR FATHER, YOU NEVER LOSE YOUR COOL...
AH, THAT'S RIGHT...
YOU AND YASUOKA-SENSEI AREN'T ACTUALLY RELATED.
SO I GUESS IT'S NO WONDER YOU CAN STAY FINE THROUGH THIS.

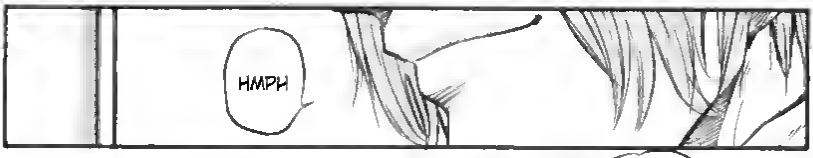
IT'S NOT AS IF EITHER OF YOU REALLY LOVE EACH OTHER AS A FAMILY.
Gasp
WHICH MEANS YOU'LL BE FINE WITH CRUSHING HIM TOO...
LET ME TELL YOU SOME-THING.
THE TRUTH IS, I LOST MY PARENTS EARLY ON AS A CHILD TOO.

YOU'RE THE SAME AS I AM, AREN'T YOU? NO MATTER WHO IS AROUND YOU ALL THE TIME, THE TRUTH IS, DEEP DOWN, YOU'RE ALWAYS ALONE...
SINCE THEN, I'VE LIVED ON ALONE,
SINCE THAT NIGHT,
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN ALL ALONE.
SHION...

Scene
Cute, little Shion...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
Stand
I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING.
WE WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT SOME OLD STORIES...
GET AWAY FROM HER, RIGHT NOW!
RIGHT, SHION-CHAN?

IF YOU DARE LAY A HAND ON HER...
I WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!


HMPH

ALMOST LIKE A MAN, DON'T YOU THINK...?

OOH, HOW TERRIFYING YOU ARE, SAITOU-SAN,

Gasp!
LET'S ALL DO OUR BEST IN THE TOURNA-MENT!
HE...!
Tremble
Tremble
Tremble
!?
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
Smile

IT'S FINE, I UNDER-STAND.
Touch
I'm fine
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF.
EVERYONE WANTS TO PROTECT YOU...
ME TOO, OF COURSE.
Fine
BUT WHY DOES THAT GUY BULLY YOU LIKE THAT ALL THE TIME?
AYUMI-KUN...

.....
IT WAS SIMILAR... THE FINGERS I SAW THAT DAY,
THE VOICE I HEARD...
Player Waiting Room
BUT... SOMEHOW IT FEELS DIFFERENT TOO,
SOME-THING ABOUT IT...

THE CHANCES OF SHION-CHAN GETTING MATCHED UP AGAINST YASUOKA-SENSEI, RIGHT IN THE FIRST ROUND. .
I WONDER WHAT SHE'S FEELING RIGHT NOW? NOT ONLY HER MASTER, BUT HER FATHER TOO...
YOU CAME TOO, SAORI?
HAN!-NII .
YEAH .
I WENT TO VISIT SAITOU-SAN'S MOTHER AT THE HOSPITAL YESTERDAY.
YOU VISITED HER?
TODAY THE MEDIA ARE ALL HERE IN FORCE,
THE ONLY PLACES WHERE WE CAN GET A BREAK ARE HERE OR IN THE BATHROOM.
?
YES, LIKE YOU SAID IN YOUR TEXT MESSAGE THE OTHER DAY..

SATORU...?
TEXT MES-SAGE...
BUT WHY TO SAORI...?

I HAD NO CLUE THAT SAITOU-SAN'S MOTHER WAS HOSPITALISED...
HOW DID YOU FIND OUT?

IS SOME-THING THE MATTER..?
HMM

NO.. THANK YOU, I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO GO VISIT MYSELF.

I THOUGHT THAT MAYBE YOU WERE PAYING SPECIAL ATTENTION TO SAITOU-SAN... OR SOMETHING..
IT'S JUST THAT IT'S RARE FOR YOU TO MEDDLE IN PEOPLE'S PERSONAL AFFAIRS,
NOTHING.
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY.. IT WAS FROM THE ASSOCIATION...
WHY DO YOU ASK?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH'
YOU TOO, SAORI YOU SHOULD COME OVER FOR A MATCH AGAIN SOMETIME, I'LL BE HAPPY TO TEACH YOU ANYTHING I CAN.
I'M EXPECTING MUCH OF ALL OF YOUR GENERATION.

SATORU.. WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU PLOTTING THIS TIME?
SO I GUESS HANI-NII DIDN'T MAKE ME GO BECAUSE HE KNEW THAT HE WAS CROSS-DRESSING,
MASTER..

WHAT'S WRONG, HISATANI...?
ARE YOU THAT WORRIED?
I AM...

YOU SHOULD GO SEE SHION INSTEAD OF ME

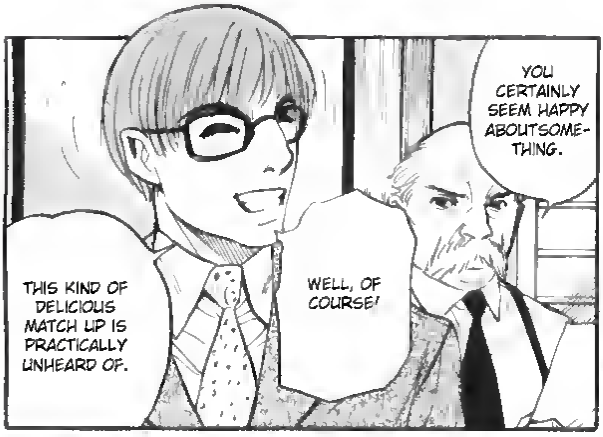
NO. . I KNOW THAT SHION WILL BE FINE
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT..

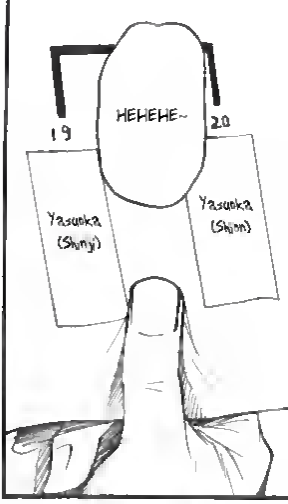
SHE'S MY DAUGHTER, AFTER ALL.
IT'S NOT AS IF EITHER OF YOU REALLY LOVE EACH OTHER AS A FAMILY.
YOU AND YASUOKA-SENSEI AREN'T ACTUALLY RELATED.
SO I GUESS IT'S NO WONDER YOU CAN STAY FINE THROUGH THIS.
NO!

IT'S BECAUSE I LOVE HIM...
THAT I CAN HONESTLY FIGHT AGAINST HIM!

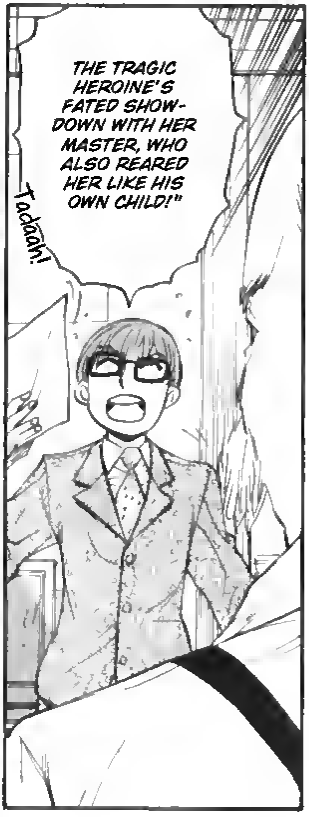
SHION...

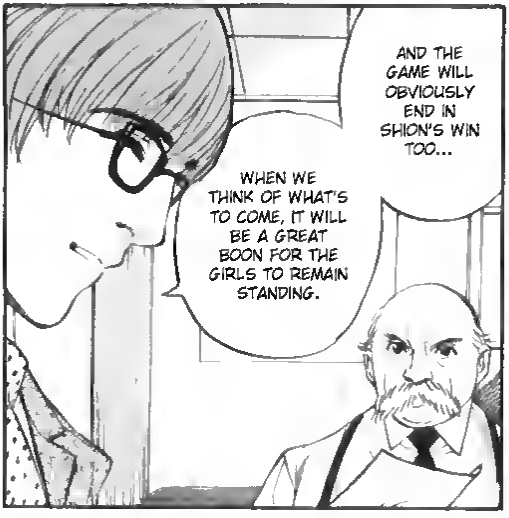
THE MATCH HASN'T EVEN STARTED YET, YOU KNOW?
YOU HAVE AN INTENSE EXPRES-SION.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SHION?
WON'T YOU SMILE FOR ME LIKE USUAL?


YOU CERTAINLY SEEM HAPPY ABOUT SOMETHING.
WELL, OF COURSE!
THIS KIND OF DELICIOUS MATCH UP IS PRACTICALLY UNHEARD OF.


HEHEHE~
19
20
Yasuka (Shuny)
Yasuka (Shion)

AS A SPONSOR, I CAN'T HELP BUT LAUGH WITH GLEE.
EHE HEHE—.


THE TRAGIC HEROINE'S FATED SHOWDOWN WITH HER MASTER, WHO ALSO REARED HER LIKE HIS OWN CHILD!"
Tadaah!


AND THE GAME WILL OBVIOUSLY END IN SHION'S WIN TOO...
WHEN WE THINK OF WHAT'S TO COME, IT WILL BE A GREAT BOON FOR THE GIRLS TO REMAIN STANDING.

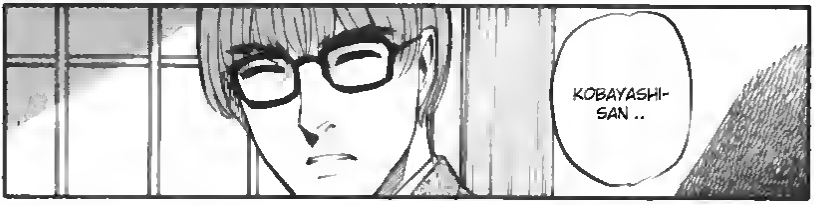
YOU'RE BEING RUDE NOT ONLY TO YASUOKA-SENSEI, BUT TO SHION-SAN AS WELL.
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW THE DIRECTION THE SHOGI MATCH WILL TAKE...
DO YOU SERIOUSLY BELIEVE THAT?
WHAT KIND OF A FATHER WOULD BE ABLE TO SERIOUSLY BATTLE THEIR DAUGHTER IN CIRCUMSTANCES LIKE THESE!
I'M TELLING YOU THAT YASUOKA-SENSEI WILL LET SHION TAKE THE WIN HERE.
YOU REALLY THINK THAT YASUOKA, 8TH DAN WILL GO EASY ON HIS OPPONENT...?

I DIDN'T MEAN IT THAT WAY... BUT THIS IS SHION-CHAN'S FIRST BIG CHANCE AND ALL.
WHEREAS FOR YASUOKA-SENSEI, THIS IS JUST ONE OF MANY GAMES HE PLAYS ALL THE TIME... SO YOU HAVE TO CONSIDER THAT TOO.
JUST ONE GAME...?
EVEN A SINGLE GAME...
WILL LEAVE BEHIND A RECORD FOR ETERNITY.

WHATEVER SHOGI YASUOKA SHION MIGHT PLAY FOR US TODAY,
AS LONG AS THAT RECORD EXISTS..
PEOPLE WILL ALWAYS SAY THAT SHE WON THIS GAME BECAUSE HER FATHER WENT EASY ON HER..
DO YOU UNDER-STAND THAT...?
.....
THE RECORDS ARE THE PROOF OF OUR WHOLE EXISTENCES..

TO LEAVE THEIR DAUGHTER WITH THAT KIND OF HUMILIATION!
WHAT KIND OF A FATHER WOULD SERIOUSLY BE ABLE...

.....

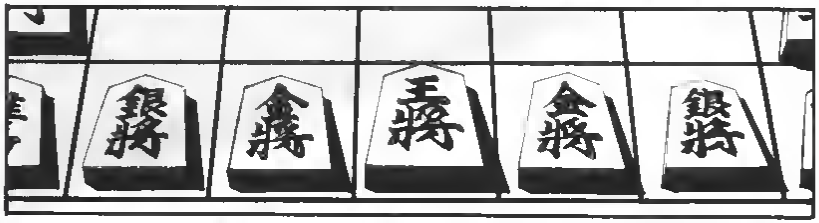

KOBAYASHI-SAN ..

DON'T UNDERESTIMATE SHOGI.

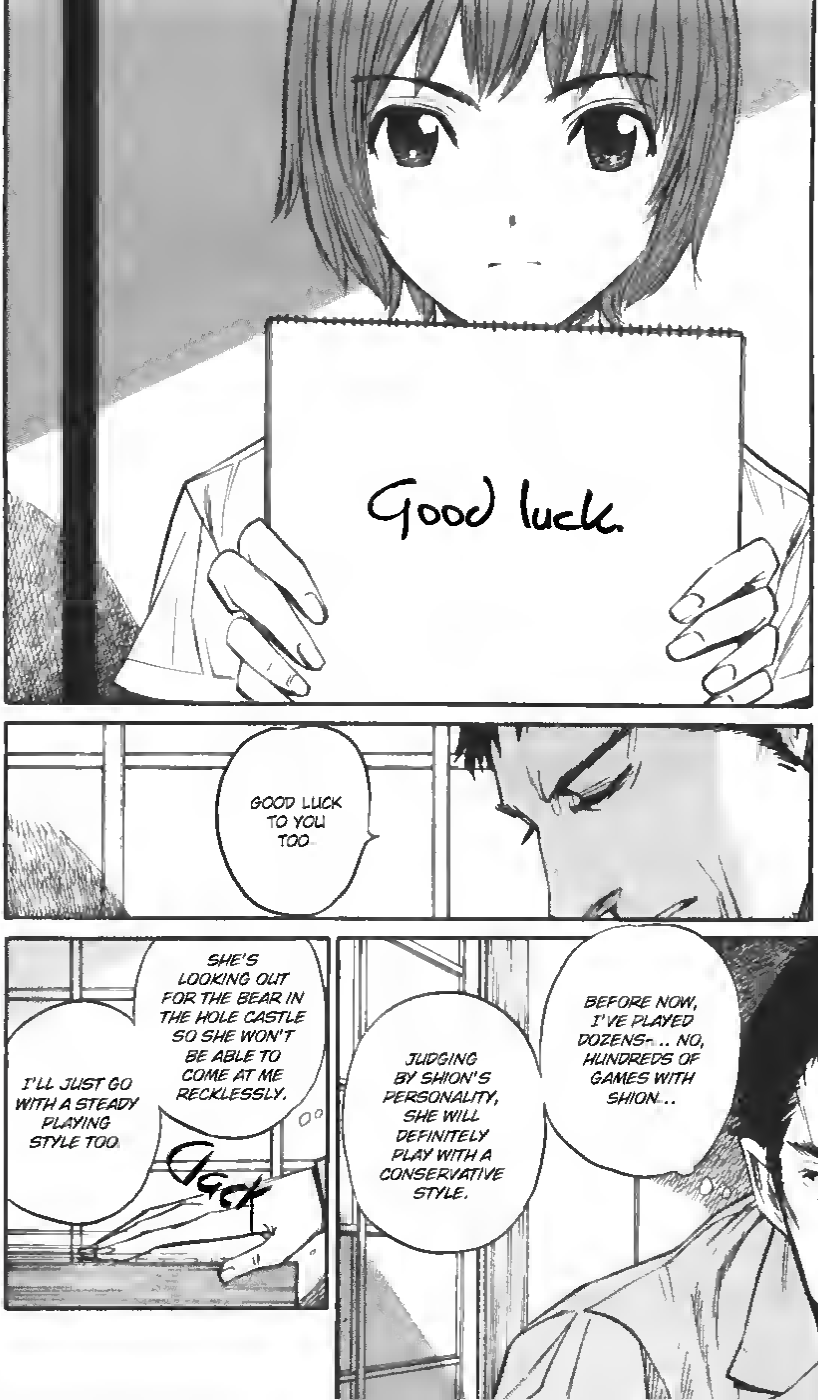
I DON'T CARE WHAT IT IS YOU HOPE TO ACHIEVE IN THIS TOUR-NAMENT,
BUT..

MEIJIN ..

K-u...



I HAVE THE OPENING MOVE..


Good luck.
GOOD LUCK TO YOU TOO.
SHE'S LOOKING OUT FOR THE BEAR IN THE HOLE CASTLE SO SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO COME AT ME RECKLESSLY.
I'LL JUST GO WITH A STEADY PLAYING STYLE TOO.
Geck
JUDGING BY SHION'S PERSONALITY, SHE WILL DEFINITELY PLAY WITH A CONSERVATIVE STYLE.
BEFORE NOW, I'VE PLAYED DOZENS-.. NO, HUNDREDS OF GAMES WITH SHION...

Clack
THIS KIND OF POWER RIGHT FROM THE FIRST MOVE
I WAS FORGETTING SOMETHING. THIS IS OUR FIRST REAL MATCH ..
Huh?!
SEEING YOUR EYES, I CAN FEEL WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, SHION ..

I FEEL... BLESSED AS YOUR FATHER.
Chapter 29
END

SCS
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QCer Pimelen
SCS blog: http://supremecream.wordpress.com
SCS forum: http://supreme-creamscans.com

30th Move

Time's Answer.

8 YEARS ALREADY...
Click

Click
8 YEARS ...

THE MATCH HAS STARTED OFF UNEXPECTEDLY CALMLY...
IT SORT OF FEELS ANTICLIMACTIC.
I WAS HOPING FOR SOME FAMILY DISCORD! I THOUGHT SOMETHING WOULD HAPPEN HERE...
I MEAN JUST LOOKING AT THE FRIGHTENING EXPRESSION ON THE MEIJIN'S FACE--
I'M SURE THERE ARE A LOT OF EMOTIONS WE CAN'T IMAGINE,
IN THE FIRST FORMAL MATCH BETWEEN A PARENT AND CHILD.
Clack
ESPECIALLY FOR YASUOKA, 8TH DAN...

JUST AS I THOUGHT, SHION CAPTURED WITH HER ROOK...
IN THAT CASE, I WILL...
Click
PAWN TO S-E7!
MY READING IS OFF.
NO... IT'S BECAUSE IT'S FATHER, WHO KNOWS MY SHOGI SO WELL,
HE'S THROW-ING ME OFF!

WE ALREADY STARTED THIS MATCH 8 YEARS AGO...
AS YOU WOULD EXPECT, YASUOKA-SENSEI IS ONE STEP AHEAD.
HOW IS SHION-CHAN DOING?
AH, NIKAIDOU-SAN,

WHY IS SHION-CHAN'S ROOK
IN A PLACE LIKE THAT?!
WELL, YOU SEE...
SHE WAS TRYING TO PUT PRESSURE ON HER OPPONENT EARLY IN THE GAME WITH A RANGING ROOK STRATEGY,
BUT YASUOKA-SENSEI READ HER STRATEGY AND METHODICALLY CHASED HER INTO A CORNER.
AND NOW WILL TAKE THE ROOK INSTEAD!
IT'S DEFINITELY VERY DIFFICULT TO PLAY AGAINST AN OPPONENT WHO IS THIS CLOSE TO YOU.
OF COURSE, THAT SHOULD BE THE SAME FOR YASUOKA-SENSEI THOUGH...
.....

飛車
SORRY...
YOUR FEELINGS ARE ALL OVER YOUR FACE NOW.
WHERE DID ALL YOUR INTENSITY FROM A MOMENT AGO GO?
PAWN TO 7-E, THAT'S TOO SHALLOW.
ONCE THAT'S BROKEN, YOU WILL BE LEFT COMPLETELY OPEN...

SHION...
DID YOU REALLY NOT MATURE AT ALL DURING THIS TOURNAMENT?!
FATHER'S MAD... THAT ALMOST NEVER HAPPENS.
IT MUST BE BECAUSE I'M PLAYING THE SAME KIND OF GAME THAT I'VE ALWAYS PLAYED...
Click

IT'S TRUE THAT AT THIS RATE,
EVEN IF I MAKE RECKLESS ATTACKS DURING THE MIDDLE GAME, I'LL BE REBUFFED AND WILL LOSE...
THAT'S RIGHT... IF I PLAY THE SAME AS I DID UNTIL NOW, THEN I'LL JUST LOSE!
ISN'T SKILL, NOR IS IT EXPERIENCE,
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING...
RIGHT NOW, MY ADVANTAGE AGAINST FATHER,

AND THAT'S THE SPEED I CAN READ AHEAD!!
SHION-CHAN'S HAVING TROUBLE MAKING AN EDGE ATTACK.
Slip
AND IT'S GOING MORE QUICKLY THAN MOST MIDDLE GAMES...
YES, THAT'S TRUE.
Knock Knock
.....

HISATANI-SAN!
IT SEEMS SHION-CHAN ISN'T DOING SO WELL...
IT'S BECAUSE THE MASTER KNOWS HER LIKE THE BACK OF HIS HAND.
SO STOP PEEPING ABOUT AT OTHER PEOPLE'S GAMES AND THROW YOURSELF FULLY INTO YOUR OWN MATCH!
Ugh...
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT SHION-CHAN AND YASUOKA-SENSEI'S GAME, BUT YOU ARE ALSO A PARTICIPANT FIGHTING IN THIS TOURNAMENT...
YES!
DO YOU INTEND TO CONTINUE AS A SHOGI PLAYER?
AS A SHOGI PLAYER ...
SCARY ...

YOU HAVE TO DO YOUR BEST AND WIN... HISATANI-KUN!
SHE RESIGNED HERSELF TO THE ROOK-BISHOP EXCHANGE ALMOST TOO EASILY.
DO YOU HAVE SOME SORT OF PLAN...?
I WILL BRING DOWN THE KING'S DEFENCES WITH PROMOTED PAWN TO 9-H...
THE MATCH IS MOVING INTO THE END GAME!

THAT'S A NICE SOUND...
THIS CONSTANT SOUND IS THE ONLY THING THAT DOESN'T CHANGE,
IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE SAME, THESE PAST 8 YEARS...

Ehehe
OOH! THAT SOUNDED NICE. THAT A GIRL, SHION-CHAN!
Gaaa
DO YOU LIKE THE SOUND THE PIECES MAKE?
SACHIKO, IS SHION-CHAN GOING TO EAT DINNER WITH US TONIGHT?
YES, SINCE ISHIWATARI-SAN APPEARS TO BE BUSY, HE SAID WE CAN CONTINUE THE LESSON.
YES! I LIKE IT!

HEY THERE, WAIT A MINUTE.
MMH! LET'S PLAY! LET'S PLAY!
SO, DO YOU WANT TO PLAY MORE SHOGI UNTIL DINNER'S READY?
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH IT?
HOW CAN I FACE ISHIWATARI-SAN AFTER THIS?
SHE CAME OVER FOR PIANO LESSONS, BUT ALL SHE TAKES BACK WITH HER IS SHOGI...
YOU KNOW HOW TO SET UP THE PIECES AND HOW THEY MOVE, RIGHT?
YEAH! BECAUSE YOU TAUGHT ME LAST TIME!
ERR...
I'LL DO MY BEST...
SHION-CHAN IS DOING HER BEST ON THE PIANO TOO, RIGHT?

TADAH!
王将
THIS OLD MAN'S GOING TO PLAY WITH THIS PIECE.
THE KING ALL ALONE?
SHION-CHAN, YOU HAVE TO THINK UP A WAY TO TAKE MY KING. OKAY?
Click
THIS OLD MAN'S PRETTY STRONG, SO YOU HAVE TO THINK HARD IF YOU WANT TO DEFEAT ME, ALRIGHT?
YEAAAH!
WELL THEN, GOOD LUCK.
LUCK...
Bow

Sniff...
Sniff
Sniff, sniff...
Uuu
Uuu
Hic
Hic...
Hic
WHY ARE YOU PLAYING SO SERIOUSLY AGAINST A CHILD...?
JUST BECAUSE I'M PLAYING A CHILD, IT'S STILL RUDER TO GO EASY ON THEM, NO?

YEAH... SHE'S QUITE SOMETHING.
BUT ISN'T IT THE FIRST TIME THAT GIRL EVER PLAYED?
JUST LOOK AT HOW FRUSTRATED SHE IS.
SHE MIGHT UNEXPECTEDLY BE THE TYPE WHO WOULD BE GOOD AT LEARNING SHOGI.
UNCLE YASUOKA...
MH, WHAT IS IT?
SNIFF...
SNIFF
SNIFF...
HIC
HIC
HIC...
CAN I GET BETTER?

IF YOU REALLY LIKE SHOGI THAT MUCH, I KNOW YOU'LL GET A LOT BETTER.
BUT TO DO THAT, YOU FIRST HAVE TO STUDY REALLY HARD, OKAY?
OKAY!
THIS GIRL'S TALENT... IT MIGHT BE THE REAL THING.
REALLY?!
WHY DON'T YOU WRITE TO SANTA TO GET A SHOGI BOARD AND PIECES. THEN YOU CAN PLAY EVEN AT HOME, WHENEVER YOU WANT.
I KNOW!
AH... UH... YOU'LL HAVE TO ASK SANTA REALLY NICELY...
PIECES MADE OF JAPANESE BOX SHRUB AND A 7 INCH BOARD!
YOU BETTER WORK HARD AND EARN LOTS OF MONEY, EH, SANTA-SAN?
I WANT ONE THAT LOOKS JUST LIKE THIS!
Ehehe~
THAT MAKES THE CLACK SOUND!

NO WORRIES, IT'LL MOTIVATE ME,
IF I GET TO SEE THAT GIRL'S SMILE AS A RESULT.
Clack
MY DEAR... YOU REALLY WANTED CHILDREN AFTER ALL?
THAT'S ANOTHER MATTER.
I JUST LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT GIRL'S LAUGH.
SO I JUST WANT HER TO BE HAPPY...
TO BE HAPPY ...

.....
SHION...
WAS I ABLE TO GIVE YOU HAPPINESS IN THE END?

AT THE BEGINNING, IT WAS JUST THE KING...
AND WHEN YOU LOST, YOU CRIED SO HARD, SHION...
AND NOW, HERE YOU ARE, PLAYING ME EVENLY.
SO FATHER ALSO REMEMBERED THAT...
HE REMEMBERED THAT FIRST MATCH WE HAD THAT DAY.

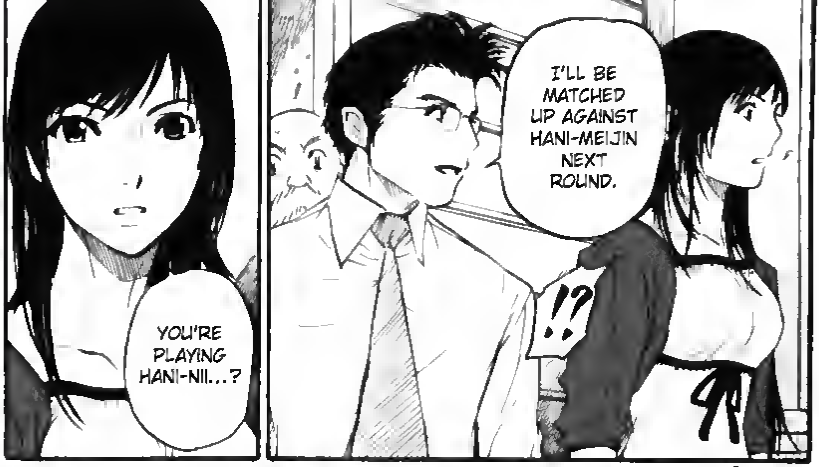
I WONDER, AM I ALSO SLOWLY REMEMBERING THINGS FROM 8 YEARS AGO?
MEMO-RIES FROM THAT TIME, 8 YEARS AGO...
JUST NOW, CAPTURING WITH HIS KING, HMM,
WHY DID YASUOKA SHINJI USE SO MUCH TIME ON THAT MOVE...?
王将
Click
.....

I IMAGINE SHION-SAN HAS MUCH MORE TIME REMAINING AT THIS POINT.
FROM THE BEGINNING, THERE HAVE BEEN TIMES WHERE YASUOKA-SENSEI HAS TAKEN TIME.
IT MIGHT BE SOME KIND OF STRATEGY...
WHILE YASUOKA 8TH DAN MIGHT RUN OUT OF TIME IN THE END GAME...
THE BOARD IS UNEXPECTEDLY COMPLEX.
AT THIS RATE IF THE END GAME BECOMES A MATTER OF TRACKING DOWN MISTAKES EVEN FOR YASUOKA-SENSEI IT WILL BE TOUGH TO PLAY QUICKLY.
SHION-CHAN HAS TO CATCH THAT CHANCE OUT OF THE FLOW...!

I'VE MANAGED TO GET CLOSER TO HIS KING...
BUT I STILL DON'T KNOW HOW TO MAKE THAT FINAL STEP...
LANCE TO 7-D?
HE WOULD PLAY PAWN TO 7-E... THEN KNIGHT TO CAPTURE? LANCE TO CAPTURE?
Clench
IF IT WORKS LIKE THAT...!
SHION GRABBED HER PENDANT...
YOU'VE FOUND SOMETHING, HAVEN'T YOU.
NOW, THE TIME...

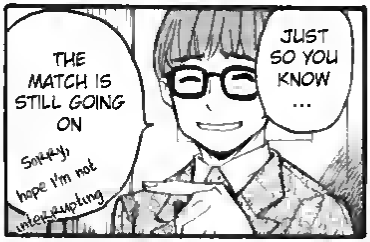
WHEN WE COME TO COUNTING THE SECONDS,
CAN I BEAT SHION'S SPEED...?
ONCE THEY START COUNTING THE SECONDS, THEY WILL HAVE 1 MINUTE PER TURN... IF THAT HAPPENS, I GUESS SHION MIGHT WIN?
BUT THE MASTER'S ENDGAME IS ALSO STRONG,
HE WON'T CEDE DEFEAT THAT EASILY.
SO... THEY HAVE ENTERED THE END GAME, HAVE THEY?

I WON MY MATCH.
HISATANI-KUN, YOU CAN'T BE HERE!
SAORI-SAN IS GOING TO YELL AT YOU AGAIN!
NO, YOU SEE...
!!
IS THAT SO? YOU WON. DID YOU?
DID YOU HEAR THAT, NIKAIDOU-SAN? HISATANI-KUN SAYS HE WON HIS MATCH!
YE-... YES, CONGRATU-LATIONS TO YOU.
BUT YOU STILL HAVE ANOTHER MATCH TO GET READY FOR.
YES...


YOU'RE PLAYING HANI-NII...?
I'LL BE MATCHED UP AGAINST HANI-MEIJIN NEXT ROUND.
!?

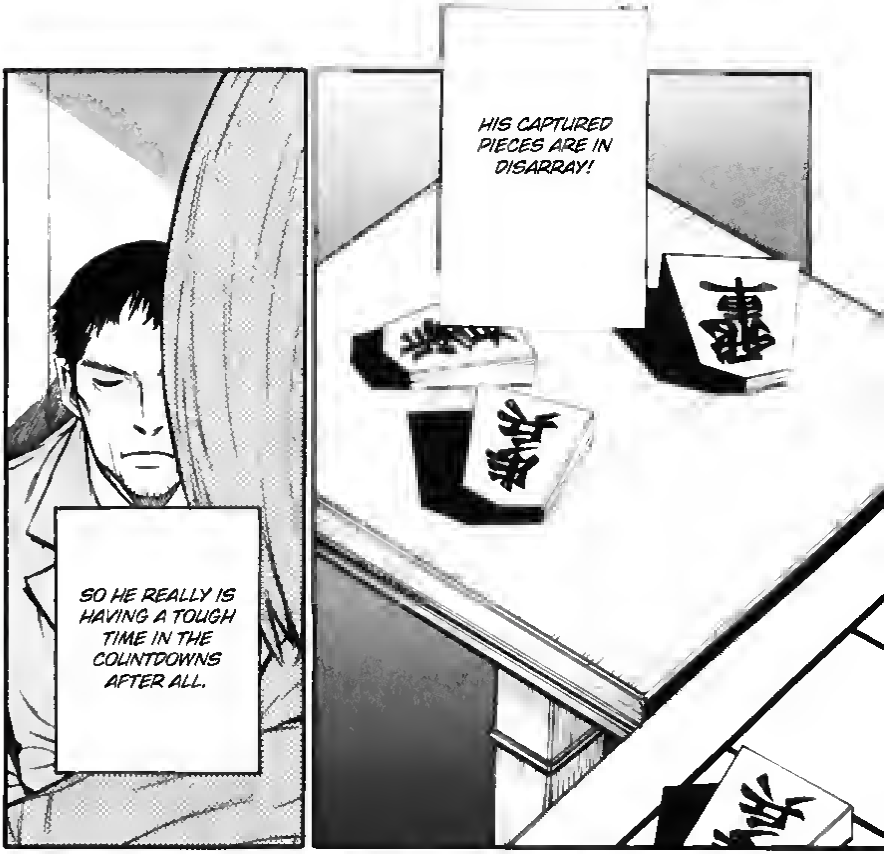
THE MEIJIN...
I'LL FINALLY BE ABLE TO FACE HIM.
YES!

I THINK SO TOO. IT'S NOT LIKE MASTER.
HASN'T THIS BECOME EVEN MORE COMPLICATED...?


THE MATCH IS STILL GOING ON
Smirk
I hope I'm not interrupting
JUST SO YOU KNOW ...

LANCE TO 7-F?

HE'S ALREADY USED UP ALL HIS TIME AND IS IN COUNT-DOWNS NOW!!
YASUOKA-SENSEI...
IT LOOKED LIKE A MOVE HE PLAYED WITH CONFI-DENCE...
EVEN AFTER ENTERING COUNTDOWNS, HE LOOKS JUST AS COMPOSED AS BEFORE.
LANCE TO 7-F
WAIT...


HIS CAPTURED PIECES ARE IN DISARRAY!
SO HE REALLY IS HAVING A TOUGH TIME IN THE COUNTDOWNS AFTER ALL.

I STILL HAVE 10 MINUTES ON MY SIDE.
I CAN DO THIS!

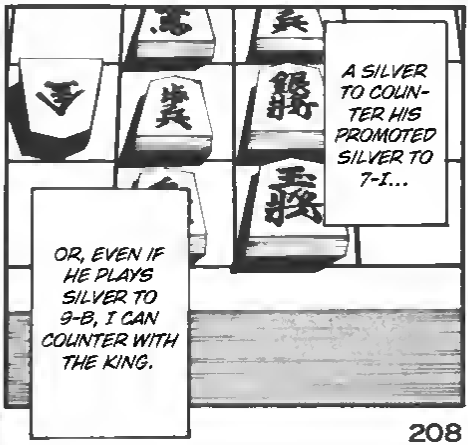
WELL, MORE IMPORTANTLY, SHE HAS BEEN ABLE TO REPEL ALL OF THE MASTER'S ATTACKS.
AND WITHOUT WASTING ANY TIME EITHER...
DOESN'T IT LOOK LIKE SHION-CHAN'S BEING PRESSURED?
EVEN THOUGH SHE SHOULD HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF TIME,
WHY IS SHE PLAYING SO RECKLESSLY ~~~?
NO TIME... YOU MEAN SHION-SAN?!
THE FASTER SHION PLAYS, THE LESS TIME HER OPPONENT WILL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT HIS NEXT MOVE, SO THAT ALSO USES UP HIS TIME.
OUR MASTER, WHO HAS ENTERED COUNTDOWNS ONLY HAS 1 MINUTE PER MOVE.

BUT THE MASTER'S ATTACKS ARE ALSO PRETTY FIERCE,
IF SHION MAKES A SINGLE MISTAKE...
MY GOD!!
BUT... DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S SHION'S KING IS GETTING MORE PROTECTED EVERY MOVE?
HUH?
?
IF SHION-CHAN IS READING THAT FAR INTO THE GAME EVEN IN THE MIDST OF THAT SHOW-DOWN...
.....

SHE'S CALMLY JUDGING HOW TO PLAY THE ENDGAME...
AND, ABOVE ALL, HER READING IS QUICK AND DEEP...
WERE YOU AIMING FOR THIS SITUATION RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING?
HMPH
IT SEEMS LIKE IT WAS ME WHO STOPPED MATURING...
Click

SHION...
IS BECOMING BETTER THAN I EVER IMAGINED!!

.....


A SILVER TO COUNTER HIS PROMOTED SILVER TO 7-I...
OR, EVEN IF HE PLAYS SILVER TO 9-B, I CAN COUNTER WITH THE KING.

SHION-SAN,
SHE'S TAKING QUITE A LONG TIME TO PLAY THIS MOVE, ISN'T SHE...
.....
Brush
AS LONG AS MY KING ISN'T CHECKED, THEN IF I PUT HIM IN CHECK FIRST,

IT'S MY WIN!
KNIGHT TO 6-E, THAT'S A GOOD MOVE!
I'M SURE SHE WAS WAITING A LONG TIME TO MAKE THIS MOVE...!

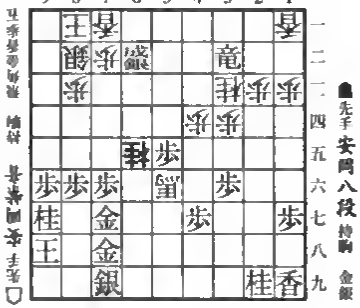
THIS IS THE MOMENT OF TRUTH FOR OUR MASTER,
HOW FAR CAN HE READ AHEAD WITH ONLY A MINUTE PER MOVE?
SHION-SAN STILL HAS MORE TIME REMAINING, AND NOW SHE'S MAKING HER OFFENSIVE.
SWIP
THIS PLAY LOOKS LIKE HE'S GIVEN UP AND IS THROWING THE GAME!!
CAN HE STILL CHECKMATE HER LIKE THIS...?
GUWA
HE MOVED GOLD TO 8-G INSTANTLY?! BUT IF HE MOVED GOLD TO 6-G, HE WOULD HAVE PUT UP MORE OF A FIGHT.
HE CAN,
!?

Shion no Ou 5 END

対局CHECK!

棋譜・解説　かとりまさる

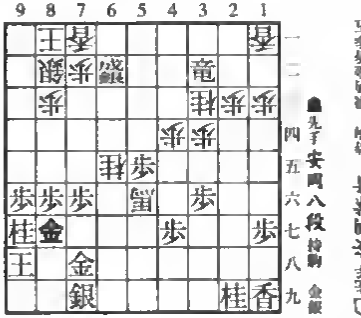
（第1図は ☖８五桂まで）



☗先手 安岡八段 持駒 金銀

☖先手 柴崎紫音五 持駒 角飛桂香五

（第2図は ☖８七金寄まで）



☗先手 安岡八段 持駒 金銀

☖先手 柴崎紫音五 持駒 角飛桂香五

本戦の一局めは親子対決。難しい勝負にどう挑む!?

師匠と弟子との対局であり、紫音と安岡は親子対決、にもなるのですが、精神的に楽な気持ちで指せるのは紫音のほうでしょう。

女流、しかも弟子に負けたとなると、「女に負けた」と言われるのが勝負の世界です。

対等に戦って負けるのは恥だと感じるプレッシャーはかなりのものです。しかも、今回は可愛い紫音が相手。

負けると泣く紫音。クッキーを作って、安岡の顔を踊しそうにのぞく紫音。いろんな紫音を知りすぎている安岡ですが、今日ばかりは負けて終わらせるわけにはいきません。

全力で安岡にぶつかってくる紫音の指し手は嬉しい事ですが、紫音と戦う迷いを消すため、精神統一に時間をかける安岡。

さて、いろんな想いを心に秘めながら進んできた終盤戦。プロになってくると、強いほうが勝つのではなく、油断したほうが負けるということを知りつつ駒を進めます（第1図）。

盤上だけを見つめ、安岡の王をしとめようとする紫音は☖６五桂と指しました。

紫音は、勝てると思ってこの手を指し、負けないと思った安岡は☗８七金と寄ります。

紫音の王は、一見詰まないようにも見えますが、難しい終盤です。

三段以上の実力の方は、ゆっくりお考え下さい。初段以下の方は、紫音の可愛い顔だけを見て投了しましょう！

※おまけアドバイス■将棋が強くなりたかったら詰め将棋の問題をいっぱい解くと、終盤の力が上がります。

「しおんの王」第5巻は、アフタヌーンの'06年5月号から10月号に掲載された作品を収録しました。

編集部では、この作品に対する皆様のご意見・ご感想をお待ちしております。

また、今後「アフタヌーンKC」にまとめてほしい作品がありましたら編集部までお知らせください。

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